

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-05 DPW-01 PM-05 NSC-05

SP-02 SS-15 L-03 PRS-01 INR-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00

/068 W

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R 261445Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3404

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 1516

E.O. 11652: XGDS3

TAGS: SHUM ICRC GV

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE ICRC VISIT TO GUINEA

REF: (A) STATE 197589, (B) CONAKRY 1369

1. CHARGE MET WITH PRIME MINISTER BEAVOGUI ON AUGUST 26 AND MADE APPROACH ON POSSIBLE ICRC VISIT PER REFTEL A PARAS 2 AND 3.

2. BEAVOGUI WAS NON-COMMITTAL BUT NOT UNRECEPTIVE. HE SAID HE WOULD BE GLAD TO TALK WITH PRESIDENT TOURE AND BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH CHARGE.

3. HE COMMENTED THAT PURPOSE OF HIS OFFER TO RECEIVE A DELEGATION HAD BEEN TO REASSURE U.S. OF "HUMANITARIAN NATURE OF GUINEAN LIFE". AS TO WHAT KIND OF DELEGATION U.S. BELIEVES CAN BEST ACHIEVE THIS -- U.S. GOVERNMENT, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION, PRIVATE FIGURES -- HE HAD NO PRECONCEIVED PREFERENCE. HE HAD BEEN THINKING MORE OF AN OFFICIAL U.S. DELEGATION WHEN HE SPOKE WITH VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE AND ACTING SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER IN JUNE. BUT HE WAS WILLING TO
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DISCUSS ANY OTHER POSSIBILITY WITH PRESIDENT TOURE AND GET HIS REACTION. IN ANY CASE, GOG WANTED VISITORS TO REPORT FINDINGS TO U.S. GOVERNMENT. BEAVOGUI ADDED THAT RECEIVING OBSERVERS WAS NOT EXCEPTIONAL FOR GUINEA: A "U.N. DELEGATION" HAD ALREADY COME (HE WOULD NOT SPECIFY WHEN THIS WAS) AND FONMIN CISSOKO, AT OAU SUMMIT, HAD MADE SIMILAR OFFER TO SENEGAL.

4. COMMENT: BEAVOGUI ACTED AS IF HE WOULD HAVE BEEN CONSIDERABLY MORE COMFORTABLE TALKING ABOUT A U.S. NATIONAL MISSION RATHER THAN ABOUT ICRC. HE DID NOT REJECT ICRC OUT OF HAND HOWEVER AND LEFT IMPRESSION GOG WOULD CONSIDER IDEA IN LIGHT OF WHETHER IT MIGHT HELP GUINEA WITH CARTER ADMINISTRATION. AS REFTEL B SPECULATED AND BEAVOGUI MADE EXPLICIT, GUINEAN AIM IS TO USE PROJECT TO CLEAN UP GOG'S REPUTATION. IT IS THUS HARD TO ENVISAGE GOG GRANTING GREAT LEEWAY IN PRISONER VISITS; ANY MISSION MAY BE MORE CIRCUMSCRIBED THAN ICRC NORMALLY DESIRES. EVEN SO, IN EMBASSY'S VIEW, SUCH QUIET CONTACTS WITH GOG ON HUMANITARIAN ISSUES, INsofar AS THEY MAY WORK TO PUT GOG ON BETTER BEHAVIOR, SEEM WORTH PURSUING.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, VISITS, POLITICAL SITUATION
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Sent Date: 26-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CONAKR01516
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770310-0072
Format: TEL
From: CONAKRY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770816/aaaaanbn.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 197589, 77 CONAKRY 1369
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1461080
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE ICRC VISIT TO GUINEA
TAGS: SHUM, GV, ICRC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/97e3df51-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009